

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF DUANE VOLUME FIRE CO. INC.

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the tremendous commitment to service and duty that the men and women of the Duane Volunteer Fire Co. Inc. have shown to their community for the last 50 years.

In September of 1970, a small group of Duane residents established the volunteer fire company as a private corporation on land that was donated in perpetuity to the Fire Department. Over the next two years, generous donations and fundraising helped the Duane Volunteer Fire Co. Inc. to become fully operational, constructing a firehouse and obtaining the necessary equipment. In 1972, the department entered into a longstanding contract with the Town of Duane to provide firematic operations, the scope of which have expanded greatly today to provide many additional services. The Duane Volunteer Fire Co. Inc. has highly trained and certified personnel up to the paramedic level that can assist in any emergency.

The Duane Volunteer Fire Co. Inc. embodies the spirit of the North Country, cultivating a strong sense of community and lending a helping hand whenever needed. These volunteers not only aid their fellow neighbors when emergencies arise, but also provide a space to bring the community together. The firehouse serves as an ad-hoc community center, used for a wide variety of purposes such as hosting town board meetings and serving as the local election site as well as the area's food bank. The department truly is a cornerstone of the community.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to thank the brave men and women, past and present, of the Duane Volunteer Fire Co. Inc. for their longtime commitment to safeguarding the community. I congratulate them on their hard-earned achievements thus far and know they will continue to be a pillar of support to the town for many years to come.

HONORING PEYTON THOMPSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Peyton Thompson. Peyton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Peyton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Peyton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Peyton has served his troop as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and attended the Seabase High Adventure in the Bahamas. Peyton has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Peyton constructed two raised garden beds for Pharis Farm, an antebellum Clay County Historic Site outside of Liberty, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Peyton Thompson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF
CONSTITUTION DAY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Anniversary of Constitution Day in the United States. On September 17, 1787, our Founding Fathers met and signed the most influential document that shaped American history, the United States Constitution.

On this day every year, we celebrate Constitution Day to commemorate our Founding Fathers working together to construct our supreme law of the land. The United States Constitution's first three words—"We The People"—affirm that the government of the United States exists to serve its citizens. Collectively, the U.S. Constitution is not only the source of all government powers, but places limitations on the government that protects the fundamental unalienable rights of U.S. Citizens.

Today we honor Constitution Day to ensure all people broaden their knowledge on how the Constitution has shaped our history and each and every one of our lives. Knowing the content of the U.S. Constitution is the key to making sure that we operate within the parameters established by our Founding Fathers. It ensures that the Constitution remains a living, breathing document and the bedrock of our democracy. Only by knowing our freedoms and rights are we able to safeguard them from attempts to dilute them. Only by knowing the boundaries of what's permissible can we prevent threats to the more perfect union that was created over 200 years ago. All laid out for us, together today, we celebrate unity, freedom, and democracy.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask that you rise with me in celebrating Constitution Day in the United States of America.

CELEBRATING REVEREND DOCTOR
GREGORY M. HOWARD

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor and recognize Rev. Dr. Gregory M. Howard, a pastor, academic, and author, who has dedicated his life to promoting community spirit in others.

Dr. Howard has shown dedication and passion for spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ through his many roles as a servant leader. The Commonwealth of Virginia is indebted to him for his years of service to our academic and religious institutions, including his time as Interim Dean and Associate Professor of Homiletics and Practical Theology at the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University, and as immediate past president of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia. He has shared his experiences and deep knowledge with us through his writing, including authoring *Black Sacred Rhetoric: The Gospel According to Religious Folk Talk and Voices Crying Out in the Wilderness: Theological Reflections Where Context Matters*.

Dr. Howard's leadership within the Black church has advanced the cause of social justice, and I am confident that he will continue to lead that fight for years to come. He continuously motivates us to work with humble devotion to improve the lives of those around us. I have no doubt that he will continue to inspire generations of young people to pursue a life of service through faith, community, and love.

IN HONOR OF MAJOR GENERAL
KENNETH D. JONES

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Major General Kenneth D. Jones for his 38 remarkable years of leadership and dedicated service in the United States Army.

General Jones was born and raised in Brazos County and now calls Iowa, Texas home. In 1980, General Jones graduated from Texas A&M University, where he was a member of the Corps of Cadets' V-1 Vipers. After graduation, General Jones chose to serve his country and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant, Ordnance Corps. General Jones began his career as a Soldier in the 82nd Airborne Division during the Cold War, later commanding at the company, battalion, brigade, and major command levels. Throughout his career, General Jones spent over 35 months deployed overseas in Southwest Asia. His deployment includes Operations Iraqi Freedom/

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